

COMING TO A HEAD.

Efforts to Put Out a Socialist Ticket in the County are Becoming More Heroic as well as More Pathetic.

The heroic effort put forth in some quarters to get out a Socialist ticket in Scott county is really assuming a pathetic aspect. There is but one local in the county, so far as I know, and this local is not very strong. I refer to Local Edna. And it is from this local and Alex Thompson, a cousin of the prosecuting attorney, that comes the urgent demand for a ticket.

Where they would get the candidates from to fill the ticket I do not have the least idea. These people base their insistence on a county ticket on regularity. They tell us that the constitution of the Socialist organization requires it. But this same constitution that they hold up to us also requires that, in order to be eligible as a candidate, one must have been a dues-paying member in good standing for one year. This does not mean that a ticket may be rigged up to save the ringsters. Where would they get the eligible candidates?

Of course I understand that in newly organized territory this provision does not apply. But this is not newly organized territory. On the contrary, it is disorganized territory.

In the last issue of Justice, the Socialist paper of Dunklin county, I find a pathetic plea, signed by M. R. Koonz of Illinois as chairman of the central committee, and addressed to Editor Scott, who is a member of the state committee. It reads: "Since you are on the state committee, I would like to ask you to help us get out a Socialist ticket in Scott county. If the state committee can do anything, PLEASE HELP US, for the majority of our county central committee voted not to put out any Socialist ticket in order to help ONE OLD PARTY BEAT THE OTHER ONE."

It would be asking too much to ask anyone who knows to believe that Mr. Koonz is the daddy of that. It smells like Yakob. Mr. K. probably had one "put over" on him by allowing the use of his name. I believe him to be a true Socialist and an honest workingman, but does not understand the secret forces that are behind the effort to get out a ticket in Scott county. He was present when the matter was discussed by the committee and, if I remember rightly, he said he agreed with the majority, but that he would vote for a ticket because his local had so instructed him.

But where does the daddy of the above get his authority for saying that the majority refused to put out a Socialist ticket "in order to help one old party beat the other one"? The principal argument, and about the only argument made by members of the committee in opposition was by Secretary Brannan. After pointing out the disorganized condition of the county, with no funds, he said it would be unfair and unjust to put men out as candidates with nothing behind them.

They who oppose a ticket have, and give, legitimate reasons. But what have the other fellows to offer except "baby talk" about the constitution?

But there is another side to this story about refusing to put out a ticket "to help one old party beat the other one." Some people are mighty clumsy about "hiding the shells." We all know what is meant. If keeping a Socialist ticket out of the field will help the Republicans beat the Democrats, will not putting a ticket in the field help the Democrats beat the Republicans? And it was Dr. Cannon, the Democratic war horse of the north end, who said something about the Democrats "dividing up" with some of the Socialists in order to "give the rest a show."

But the funny part of it is that in the same issue of Justice in which appears this pathetic appeal to help save the Democrats here, the editor urges the Socialists of Dunklin county to vote for J. R. Smith, Republican candidate for prosecuting attorney. Here is what he says:

"Mr. Smith is making the campaign on the Republican ticket, but owing to the conditions that prevail in Dunklin county, all good citizens must choose this year between him and a Democratic candidate who cannot or will not efficiently prosecute the grafters and hoodlars of the court house ring, because this Democrat is a blood relative or otherwise connected with these said grafters and hoodlars. Since the Socialist party has no man in the county qualified to serve as prosecuting attorney, if elected, and since that place on our ticket is necessarily blank, and since we are fighting for a clean administration in Dunklin county and for the cleaning out of the present rotten ring at Kennett, we believe that every Socialist in Dunklin county will lend his hearty support to Bob Smith, of Campbell."

What does Mr. Koonz think of that? Do not the same conditions exist here as to a Democratic ring? And while the Socialists of

Dunklin county are taking advantage of an opportunity to get rid of only one, we have a chance to dump the whole bunch.

If there was any organization in Scott county, it would undoubtedly be proper to put out a ticket. But a ticket without anything behind it is nonsense. By the most unscrupulous and tyrannical methods the powers that rule here destroyed what organization we had. And not until it was too late did the stupid ringsters discover that by so doing they had probably cut their own throats.

Then, and not until then, were there any signs of Socialist activity in certain parts of the county. After the campaign of two years ago several efforts were made to re-organize the county. Chairman Brannan went over the county and the only encouragement received of a substantial character was from Macedonia local. Encouraged at this, and the promises of some individuals, he called a meeting at Morley. But nobody came.

Along about this time an effort was made to revive Local Illinois which had split off from Local Edna because of the reinstatement of J. W. Jacob. With the understanding that Local Illinois should attend to the distribution over the county, I paid for 1000 copies of a special edition of the Appeal to Reason. The papers came and Pearl Daugherty wrote and asked me what to do with them—that nobody seemed interested. I don't believe the papers were ever distributed.

As a next effort M. M. Aldrich, a Socialist speaker and organizer, was brought in. He spoke first at Chaffee and some good Democratic soursed him with a bucket of water from the hotel window overhead.

From there he went to Farnell and Illinois and spoke, and was so discouraged that he left the county—although he was billed to speak at a dozen other places. While in the county I met Aldrich—and he was broke. I gave him \$2.50 all the money I had except just enough to get home on.

But it seems no trouble at all to get funds for speakers now. One of the advocates of putting out a ticket has been in correspondence with the managers of Eugene Debs and Fred Warren to bring these national figures in here. That was something the Socialists were never able to even seriously consider. I believe there have been more Socialist speakers in Illinois than during any former campaign up to this time.

In the last report of State Secretary Vierling I find this notice: "Comrade J. W. Jacob reports a splendid meeting at Illinois addressed by Mrs. Carrie Turnidge, at the theater. Her subject was: 'Why Christians Should Be Socialists.' They are also preparing a whole week for McAllister."

Now, that is sure going some. Heretofore Socialists have considered themselves fortunate if allowed to speak unmolested on the streets. But it seems that "Comrade Jacob" is able to provide a theatre!

Probably the theatre referred to is Lightner's opera house. If so, I believe the charge for its use is ten dollars per night. Capt. Lightner is a Democrat from "way back." Are the Socialists up there so much more prosperous than in former years that they can afford this expense, or did Capt. Lightner donate the use of his opera house to "the cause"? But it doesn't matter. The speakers under the direction of the state office are all right, and they can't bring in too many, and I urge all Socialists to hear them and to get as many bone-heads as possible to hear them. Perhaps by the time the campaign closes there will be sufficient interest to form a county organization—and maintain it.

The campaign of education among the working class can be carried on just as well without a ticket in the field as with one. So far as I have been able to learn, there are not a handful of Socialists in the county who want a ticket—and I don't believe there is anyone who can give a legitimate excuse for wanting one under the circumstances.

Of course I am not familiar with the sentiments of all the Socialists of the county, and I do not doubt there are some who honestly believe that a ticket should be put out. But, so far as I have been able to observe, only two men have been especially and actively active in thus favoring the Democrats. Neither is popular with Socialists.

One of these for three years has been secretly fighting the Kicker while pretending to be his friend. But the break came at the opening of this campaign when he sent in a notice that he had been elected "county chairman" by methods of his own. I saw through his scheme and refused to publish his dope. The trick was to overthrow the regularly elected chairman, J. H. Brannan, and put himself at the head.

The other fellow that is so insistent on putting out a ticket has no standing among the Socialists of the county. During the campaign of 1912 the Republicans discovered him and he operated with them. The Republicans soon found that they had been gold-bricked and dropped him.

When he comes to Benton he avoids the Kicker—for which I am thankful. He was so anxious for a ticket that, without any request from the Socialists, he filed as their candidate for collector.

It was then that the Kicker balked—and exposed the whole thing. I became convinced that the court house was laying its wires into the Socialist camp. And every development since then has only strengthened that conviction.

And after it is all over with the Democrats, I will have discovered that there is a difference between swallowing the Populist party and swallowing the Socialist party. If they don't get choked in their effort to swallow Socialism, then I'm no prophet.

Since writing the above I notice that Koonz has an appeal in the Morley organ of the court house, pleading for the "Dear Comrades" to help get out a ticket. I guess Editor Coleman will have to "reorganize" his local out there.

Looks like a shame not to help these fellows get out a ticket. Who knows but what a failure might seriously interfere with somebody's "divide up"?

The Democrats have no doubt learned something since their experience with Rucker and now probably make contracts to pay only on delivery of the goods.

GEMS FROM WAR—WHAT FOR?

By Geo. R. Kirkpatrick.
The working class must themselves become organized political authority, must seize the powers of government—and thus secure legal control of sovereign political power which carries with it the legal right to control, or revise, or abolish, or re-organize industrial institutions; must thus secure the legal right to construct and inaugurate that industrial form of society which will destroy capitalism with its organized, legalized opportunities for class robbery, and which will, at the same time, substitute organized, legal opportunities for every member of society to make a living without being robbed, opportunity to live without wasting and vulgarizing his life in a struggle against his fellow men.

There is but one working class political party on all the earth. That party sincerely proclaims: "Freedom for the working class! No more war!" And loudly and patiently that party sounds an immortal call of brotherhood to all the workers on all the blood-stained earth: "Workmen of all countries, unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

Th much plundered working people are beginning to think. Thought is a revolutionary. A thought is a file, a keen saw, with which a soul may escape from the gloomy dungeon of prejudice. Thought is intellectual, and thought is a dynamo of power. Thought utterly destroys mental rubbish. Thoughts kill what ought to die. Thinking slaves promptly become defiant and dare to do for freedom. Thoughts kill—kills slavery.

The change comes and come it must. The cruel spell wrought over the mind of the multitude by the bribed orator, by the purchased writer, by the blood-lusting "man on horseback," and by the far-looking masters of industry—that spell will be, must be, broken. The iron shackles on the wrists and ankles of the toilers have already been broken. The wage slaves' shackles also must be rendered, not only the industrial, but the mental slavery of the modern workers must be destroyed.

Too long, too madly and sadly, too foolishly the flim-flamners of the working class have broken their own hearts and wet the earth with their own blood and tears, sweat themselves into stupidity and then—like cheated children—gullibly hand over the choicest culture, clothing, bread, wine and shelter to the robbers and rulers who despise them and betray them.

"That congress declare a government monopoly over all telegraph, telephone and communications and such other means of transmissions of intelligence as may hereafter develop." That sounds pretty radical. Yet it is from the report of the postmaster general. Now suppose congress "declare a government monopoly of money and banking," the way will speedily be opened for acquiring the other things mentioned. And then some.

Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

WOMEN NEED VOTE

SEE FALLACY OF ARGUMENTS AGAINST GRANTING OF FRANCHISE.

Realizes There is No Other Way by Which Mothers May Secure Safety for Their Children.

By ALICE CURTICE MOYER.

I can count three distinct steps in my conversion to woman suffrage. When I was 15 years old we moved to the county seat so that we children could have better school advantages. One day I found myself lined up for a debate on woman suffrage—and on the side opposed to it.

I have to laugh now as I look back to that incident and see what a little fool I made of myself. But I had read a few novels where the girls were of the clinging-vine variety—girls who screamed at the sight of a bug, went into hysterics over spiders and fainted often. They were just cute little things without sense, and oh! how the men adored them!

But even at 15 I had decided that I should not be little, and I didn't know how to faint; but I could at least be without sense, just as the sterner sex wanted girls to be, and it was here that I resolved to shine.

First Step as Anti.

I searched high and low for "evidence." A girl friend loaned me a magazine of yellowish trend. My! what a lot of lovely things that magazine told about how girls should act, and what a terrible thing it would be if they ever got the vote, or even wish to.

Another friend, more mature, gave me some treatises on the subject of sex equality. I read them, and at times was a little startled at what my own discoveries would mean. But I turned a deaf ear, pinned my faith to the blithely published opinion of the girl of my own age, bravely made up my arguments and as bravely launched them when the time came.

I told all about the terror of the awful polls and all the other rubbish that my magazine had taught me, and took my seat amid the applause of the other youngsters.

But my joy was short-lived, and I shall never forget how the principal speaker on the other side, a calm-faced young teacher who spoke earnestly, sensibly, convincingly, tore to shreds all the little idiotic arguments.



Mrs. Alice Curtice Moyer.

ments I had advanced and made me more plainly than anyone else perhaps see them for what they were. I felt that everybody was looking at me and seeing me for the simpleton that I knew I was, and suddenly it occurred to me that it wasn't so much fun after all to be absolutely senseless.

Second Step as Teacher.

The year that followed saw an almost complete transformation in my mental make-up. I found myself feeling a supreme contempt for the type of man who could admire the senseless girl, and at 17 I began my career as a teacher in the district schools of my home state, Missouri, and as a country teacher I experienced the second step in my conversion, for, all about me I discovered that the young men were not so much as I had been told. They were not so much as I had been told. They were not so much as I had been told. They were not so much as I had been told.

Third Step as Mother.

The third step in my educational conversion was the final one, and came when a young mother of young children, I experienced the yearning that none but mothers know—the heart-breaking wish to protect the little ones from perverse outside influences, the prayerful desire to have them guarded and shielded from the dangers and temptations of the outer world in the face of which the mother love is too often the most powerless of all forces.

And I found myself praying for an influence that would give me the power to help shape these outside conditions so that my children and other mothers' children should more safely venture beyond the precincts of home.

And never, since that period up to the present time, have I for one instant doubted my decision as to what this power is that must be placed in the hands of the mothers of the world; what it is that they must wield throughout this land and others; what it is that represents the most powerful influence entrusted to the hands of citizens—the ballot.

THE TIME IT TAKES TO VOTE

"If given the ballot, how much time must a woman spend on her political duties?" This is a question often asked. Here is the answer by Alice Parker Freeman:

If she belongs to the well-to-do class and hires others to do her work she has time for whatever interests her mostly—only let those interests be noble! If she does her own housework she can take 10 minutes to stop on her way to market and vote once or twice a year. She can find half an hour for the newspaper and other means of information. She can talk with family and friends about what she reads. She does this now; she will then do it more intelligently, and will give and receive more from what she says and hears. If she does this amount of reading and talking she will be better informed than the majority of voters are now.

The duties of motherhood and the making of a home are the most sacred work of women, and the dearest to them, of every class. If casting an intelligent vote would interfere with what women only can do—and what, failed in, undermines society and government—no one can question which a woman must choose. But it cannot be shown that there are any large number of women in this country who have not the necessary time to vote intelligently, and it can be urged that a study of the vital questions of our government would make them better comrades to their husbands and friends, better guides to their sons and more interesting and valuable members of society. Women of every class have more leisure than men, are less tied to hours of routine; they have had more years of school training than men. All this makes simple the combination of public and "higher" duties.

KANSAS CITY TRAINING SUFFRAGE SPEAKERS

At the training school for suffrage speakers held recently at Kansas City by Miss De Witt, many women with great talent discovered for the first time their gift for oratory. Some of the students, however, had already had experience in pleading for suffrage. Among them was Mrs. Kate Ellis Wise, who recently lectured for suffrage in the eastern campaigns. The question had been asked, "How about the bad woman's vote?" Mrs. Ellis' answer was quick and to the point: "Why even discuss the question of enfranchising these women? Did you ever hear any discussion of whether the men who made these women this way shall vote? Why is not someone questioning that? In our recent vice campaign here it was shown that it takes eight men to make and keep one woman of the underworld. All these men have the ballot; they have already tainted it crimson. There is no bad woman that some bad man did not make, and this same man has not been disfranchised."

The scarlet woman will not taint the ballot, because it is already in the hands of the scarlet woman."

Woman May Lose Office—Why?

Miss Anita Grish, a young social worker, who in six months has revolutionized Jersey City's poor department, has incurred the enmity of politicians, who are making determined efforts to get rid of her and put a man in her place. Miss Grish cut the list of recipients of relief nearly 50 per cent. She investigated each case and found many who had received free coal were owners of real estate, while others received comfortable incomes from boarders.

In abandonment cases involving the support of illegitimate children Miss Grish prosecuted regardless of political affiliations or family connections of the offenders. She created a sensation by having a prominent physician to court on complaint of a woman who had a child dependent on her, and only last week secured the conviction of a member of the fire department and had him put under bond to support a child until it should become of age.

The only charge that the opposition is able to bring against Miss Grish is that she is not a resident of Jersey City. Incidentally, she is not a voter.

South American Women Want Suffrage.

The women of Uruguay have presented to the chamber of deputies a petition asking for the same political rights now possessed by the men of that country.

Four million women of 10 states will vote for president in 1915. It is up to the men of Missouri this fall to say on their ballots, when they vote on the Thirtieth Amendment, whether their wives, mothers, sweethearts and daughters shall have this privilege in this state.

Indorsement has been given the cause of woman suffrage by the National Grange of 1,000,000 farmers; Federation of Women's Clubs, 1,800,000; the National Educational Association, 17,876; the International Council of Women, 7,000,000; Woman's Trade Union League, 65,000.

IN THE SOUTHEAST.

What the People are Doing in Other Counties that are Near.

Allenville Items in Cape Republic.—Bill Griffith's boy John, about 14 or 15 years old was bitten in the foot yesterday by a big, black-spotted copperhead snake while plowing for wheat for his uncle, Frank Griffith, on the Oliver farm in Whitewater bottom up the river from town. The boy was barefooted and the snake into the furrow. He stepped on the reptile and was bitten in the foot. The boy became deathly sick almost instantly. The boy left the team in the field and managed to get to the house. A doctor was brought from Allenville in a short time and whisky and other remedies administered. The poisoned foot swelled tremendously in a short time. He is reported to be a little better.

Farmington Times.—Sunday afternoon an empty whiskey barrel exploded in the yard at Will Dalton's residence at Cantwell, injuring his two boys aged 14 and 6 years. Mr. Dalton had gotten the barrel the day before and had washed it out with water intending to use it to haul water on Monday. Sunday afternoon the boys were striking matches near it, when all at once it exploded with a deafening report. Parts of the head struck both boys, inflicting a slight cut over the right eye of the older lad and badly bruising the entire right side of the younger boy's face.

Pemiscot Argus.—The presence of a large knot of people about the streets Saturday did not mean that a fight was in progress nor even a fight between two dogs, but that some of the farmers were discussing the cotton question. It was apparently a topic of engrossed interest and many selections were proposed and sustained or defeated by the arguments of many voices. All contend, however, on the point that some sort of market must be supplied in the next thirty days, or widespread trouble would follow.

Jackson Items.—About on every farm the men are busy with plowing, which is an easy matter since the copious rains of last week. The indications are that a large acreage will be sown to wheat, as it is certain that good prices will prevail till threshing time next year. This is a certainty even if the European war should be concluded within a few weeks, and should the war continue into next year, the American farmers will be called upon to prevent actual starvation.

Cape Tribune.—Miss Bertha Rector left for her home at Chaffee Friday after enjoying a visit with friends in this city. Miss Rector, who was the assistant in the 2nd and 3rd primary grades at the Normal last year, made such a success of her work that she has been offered the position of assistant teacher in the primary department of Spivey school, which is in connection with the Teachers' College of Columbia N. York.

Near Bernie Zack Hart was instantly killed by the premature explosion of dynamite used in a gravel pit. The body was fearfully mangled. Clay Reavis, who was near, was seriously wounded. Near Dexter Wm. Head was killed in the same way while blasting stumps. These work people have an awful time in their battle for existence. The mines take no such chances—except when they get drunk and ditch an automobile.

Malden Merit.—Isam Ashler, an employe at the History handle mill, near the Cotton Belt Ry. coal chute met with a very painful accident last Friday morning. In some manner his right hand came in contact with a saw severing two of his fingers. Saturday afternoon a man whose name we failed to learn met with a similar accident at the same place and on the same saw.

Puxico Index.—E. L. Hawks, the water works man has a potato patch south of his pumping station, and during the drouth he flooded it with water, but got no potatoes. The roots rotted off save only those near the ground. Since the showers came the vines have revived and new potatoes are forming.

Tom Ward, assistant cashier of the defunct Pemiscot County Bank, was tried last week for receiving money on deposit when he knew the bank was insolvent. The jury gave him two years in the pen. But, then, Tom hasn't gone to the pen yet. He is not of the class that inhabit prisons.

Judge Evans of West Plains held court in Caruthersville last week. During the night someone entered his room at the hotel and stole all of his clothes.

John H. Nations and his son, Commodore, former residents of Scott county, died at Caruthersville on the same day of typhoid fever last week.

Down in Pemiscot county "the party" is still having trouble. Suits have been filed against the bondsmen who stood as surety for the county and drainage ditch funds in the sum of over three hundred thousand dollars. And now comes these very respectable Christian gentlemen and plead in court that, among other things "the bond sued upon is void and wholly insufficient in law upon which to base any cause of action." Well, there is nothing surprising about this. The law has all sorts of loop-holes through which the eminently respectable can escape, but it holds the little fellow like a vice. That is because it is the big fellow who makes the laws.

Cape Tribune.—Harvey Stiver, a young man employed at the Cape Cooperage works, was perhaps fatally injured yesterday afternoon while engaged in his work. A heavy block of wood was hurled from one of the revolving saws striking Stiver squarely on the chest. The impact was so great that he was thrown heavily against an upright post which stood a short distance from where he was working. His chest was crushed from being struck by the flying missile, and his hip was also severely injured when he fell against the post.

Cape Republican.—H. Koehrer, one of the old, steady employes of the Frisco car repair department was struck on the head Tuesday afternoon and nearly knocked out. A long deep gash was cut which caused him to retire from work and seek a doctor, who bound up the wound and sent him home for a rest and recuperation. Koehrer is now wearing his head in banter to his work.

CONFISCATION.

From the Memphis Socialist. Socialists are often asked the question: "How are you going to get possession of the industries?" That question was supposed to be a sockdolager. It is so no longer. Most any Socialist can answer that question now. And the funny part of it is the sanctified have shown us ungodly Socialists the way.

Whenever we Socialists get the power we may do as the prohibitionists are doing. The prohibs are confiscating the values of the breweries, destroying or attempting to destroy millions of dollars' worth of property. That is confiscation with a vengeance.

When we Socialists get the power we may go to the exploiters of men women and children, to the cotton mills, to mines and to all places where the worker are robbed of the fruits of their labor, and have these slave pens denounced a public nuisance and then "our" attorney general will get out an injunction restraining the exploiters of labor from operating.

It's all very simple. We believe a cotton mill where children of tender age are stunted in growth, and robbed of all the securities of childhood, is a greater nuisance than the saloon. We thank the prohibs for showing us the way.

AN IDEAL PERSON

"I am afraid," said the assistant manager of the mammoth metropolitan department store, "the young woman who has just inquired for a job isn't quite up to our standard."

"I thought she seemed like a very nice-looking person," said the manager.

"You know it pays to have good-looking people back of the counter. Have you ever considered that point?"

"Yes, I have. I agree with you. But she struck me as being extremely stupid. She certainly was not very well educated."

"Could she read and write?"

"Barely."

"Did she have any knowledge of literature?"

"Apparently none whatever."

"The manager's face brightened up."

"She's too nice a looking person to let go by. In that case, why don't you employ her as a saleswoman in our book department?"—Life.

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Read the Kicker and get the unmuzzled side of it.